

SBI Announces Spiritual Life Forum Topics

"Mother Teresa of Calcutta: Prophet to the Poorest" will be the first of three presentations in the Spiritual Life Forum sponsored by the Divinity Schools and St. Bernard's Institute.

Father Joseph Hart, a personal friend of the Nobel Prize winner, will deliver the opening lecture 8:30 a.m., Monday, Feb. 20 in the auditorium.

The public is invited to the free event.

The Spiritual Life forum is

a spring semester program exploring the relationship between ministry and spirituality. This year's series is entitled, "Prophetic Voices in a Technocratic Era."

The second presentation, "Thomas Merton: Prophet of Peace," will be given by Msgr. William Shannon, professor emeritus of religious studies at Nazareth College, and the author of "Thomas Merton's Dark Path." Msgr. Shannon will speak March 19.

"Martin Luther King Jr.:



Prophet of the Beloved Community," will be delivered by the martyred civil rights leader's teacher and friend, Dr. Kenneth Lee Smith, professor of applied theology at the Divinity Schools, April 16.

Following each lecture will be an open forum and reflection period.

Last year's series, a pilot program, was attended by more than 600 people.

Victor Parish Sets Renewal

Victor — Parishioners at St. Patrick's Church here are linking their eighth annual Renewal program with the theme of Bishop Matthew H. Clark's Lenten Crossroads journey, "Renewed Hearts... Renewed Church."

The eight-night Renewal program runs Sunday, Feb. 19 through Sunday, Feb. 26, and will feature, among many guest speakers, Father Timothy Keating, CSSR, Father Daniel Condon, Father John Mulligan and Father Robert Collins.

"The purpose of Renewal is to help you turn your hearts to God and make a commitment to Jesus Christ as the Lord and center of your life. A personal Renewal will mean a renewed life in the Church, and renewal community, one that houses a living presence of God," said Mimi Walker, spokesperson for the program.

"All are welcome," she said, "to attend this spiritual renewal of our hearts." Further information is available from Jacqui Matteson, 924-5847; or Barb Schill, 924-9239.

R&R Scheduled At St. Boniface

"Be Not Afraid," has been selected as the theme of the St. Boniface Parish Renewal and Reconciliation (R&R) Weekend, Feb. 24 and 25 in the school on Gregory Street.

The event is the first such in nearly four years at the parish. It is being chaired by John and Betty Schmitt. Frank Payne of Co.pus Christi Church will serve as bell-ringer.

The weekend will open at 6 p.m., Friday and close with a Mass on Saturday night. An in-home babysitting service will be provided for free for those attending the event.

Further information is available from the Schmitts, 271-0299.

Strong's Bowlers Are Going Strong

According to a sport release from Our Lady of Mercy, the school's bowling team outdueled Nazareth 2-1, Thursday, Feb. 3 at the North Park Lanes.

As a team, Mercy (9-12) rolled its best game (860) and series (1,691) of the season. Theresa Fletcher fired her best game of the year, a 152. Leslie Becoats was consistent with two 149 games, giving her a 298 series.

Sarah Child

All in the Family



Deluxe Hotels And I

I recently read a list of the world's best hotels. Needless to say, I never stayed in any of them.

I have, however, occupied rooms in some of the world's worst establishments, on either side of the Atlantic.

One was in New York City. I was a young reporter and a colleague and I and two fellows who liked theater as much as we did decided to take in some off-Broadway shows.

Taking turns driving all night, we arrived Saturday morning, not exactly fresh, but enthusiastic. At 2:30 p.m. we attended a matinee of "The Fantasticks." At 6 p.m. we saw several one-act plays by Eugene O'Neill and at 8:30 we were treated to one of the last and most awful performances of "Three Penny Opera." It had been running for years and the cast members were so jaded they spoke their lines in sing-song.

Then we went to our bargain hotel, \$5 a night. I think it was. My girlfriend and I were on the sixth floor, the fellows on the floor above. There were two single iron beds in our room, a window with no curtain. But it was okay. We were young, saving money and Bohemians, were we not?

The bathroom was worn and antiquated and we tried to avoid it.

The fellows said good-night and we turned off the lights and crawled into bed. The noises began. Very loud noises. There were elephants in the bathroom. We called upstairs and one of the fellows came down to investigate.

"Nothing to worry about girls," he assured. "Just a large family of cockroaches."

An even better hotel in the "worst" category was one we found in Italy when my husband and I went with a Church group. The trip was last-

ly arranged and the travel agent almost apologized for the accommodations.

We arrived in Rome, dead tired, to find a shabby pink hotel clinging precariously to a hillside.

The one bellboy wore threadbare jeans topped with a jacket that Phillip Morris' "Johnny" had thrown away 30 years before. An elevator bore a brass engraved plaque, "Out of Order."

Our room was on the first floor which was in the musty basement. We opened the door and staggered back overcome by draperies torn off the wall, stripped bed and array of whiskey and wine bottles.

We asked for another room and got it. It had two twin bunks attached to the wall in an 8x10 foot cell. There was not room enough for both of us and by husband's typewriter too, so we went back to the desk.

The third time we lucked out. The fifth floor room not only had a double bed but a couch too. The maid had even vacuumed. You could tell by the path of the sweeper over the filthy carpet. One road into the bed and one road out.

The balcony was covered with pigeon droppings and there was no light in the bathroom which predated the hotel by 50 years. The sheets were clean, however, and I crawled in for a nap. Twilight came and the cooing began. It was not my husband.

I looked up and saw our window had a hole, a very round and now perfect pigeon hole, where an airconditioning unit might once have dwelt. I pasted a newspaper over it and went back to sleep.

Later, we traded stories with our group and discovered we had the deluxe accommodations. Horror stories were rampant.

Horrible trip? As I remember it, it was one of the best times I ever had. Sometimes adversity can be so ridiculous as to be wonderful. Or maybe it's just that they can't ruin Italy no matter how hard they try.

U.S. Detention of Refugees Said 'Morally Unacceptable' By USCC Immigration Chief

Washington (NC) — Detaining asylum-seekers is "morally unacceptable" and contrary to the longstanding Immigration and Naturalization Service policy of paroling them into the community, said Bishop Anthony J. Bevilacqua of Pittsburgh, chairman of the bishops' migration committee.

Citing a hunger strike which had taken place in the Krome Detention Center in Miami, Bishop Bevilacqua said that incident, which ended Feb. 6, "calls into question the very policy of detention."

The bishop heads the National Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Migration and Tourism. His statement was released at NCCB headquarters in Washington Feb. 7.

More than 100 of the approximately 470 asylum-seekers at Krome participated in the 13-day hunger strike, calling it "collective suicide." Among the hunger strikers were 78 Haitians — 62 men and 6 women.

The asylum-seekers at Krome were forced to go on the hunger strike, Bishop Bevilacqua said, "with obvious risks to their health and life, in order to call the attention of society to their suffering and their desire for freedom."

"The Church expresses its solidarity with the plight of

these asylum-seekers and prays for their health, their rights and their freedom, in the hope that their experience may lead us to a revision of policies that better embody our tradition of hospitality and justice," he said.

In other recent incidents, 39 Afghani asylum-seekers at the Brooklyn, N.Y., detention center went on a three-week hunger strike in July and Haitians and others confined at Krome staged a strike last fall that ended when several of the detainees were released.

"The detention of persons for long periods of time for no criminal action damages their sense of initiative, their self-respect and debilitates physically and psychologically because of family separation and forced inaction," Bishop Bevilacqua said.

Detention does not benefit the United States either, he continued, because the end results of such a policy are

overflowing detention centers costing huge amounts of taxpayer monies and complicating and delaying the adjudication process.

In the summer of 1982, 1,800 Haitians were released from detention camps as the result of a federal suit.

The Haitians who have illegally entered the United States claim they are political refugees seeking asylum from fascism but the U.S. government contends they are fleeing adverse economic conditions and therefore not eligible for refugee status. The government detains them pending hearings on whether they should be deported.

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